GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2974
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2003
PILOT EDUCATIONAL PROJECT
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) whether the Prime Minister on June 11, 2003 inaugurated a pilot educational project of Information Technology targeting 60,000 schools for linking them to each other by an intra-net as also to the internet system;

(b) if so, the details of the educational curriculum and pattern that will be disseminated through this system; and

(c) the other details and cost of the project?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Hon`ble Prime Minister launched the Vidya Vahini Pilot Project covering 140 schools and 7 training centers on 11.6.2003.

(b): Course curriculum content from Class KG to Class 12th as perthe CBSE standard in the digital form has been provided in each of the schools. This content has also been hosted on a Central Portal (www.vidyavahini.ernet.in). The Portal also contains other education material.

(c): The Vidya Vahini Programme proposes to integrate Internet and Intranet tools and computer-aided techniques into the learning environment. The Programme focuses on:

- providing Information & Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure;
- training of the teachers to use ICT for imparting education;
- providing different learning resources which include related educational tools, course curriculum and other learning material.

A pilot project of Vidya Vahini has been implemented in 140 schools at seven districts (20 schools in each district) in the following six States:

(i) Uttar Pradesh - Lucknow and Allahabad

(ii) Jharkhand - Hazaribagh

(iii) Gujarat - Gandhinagar

(iv) Andhra Pradesh - Chittoor

(v) Maharashtra - Parli Vaijnath

(vi) West Bengal - South 24-Parganas

In each of the schools, a computer lab has been set up consisting of 10 personal computers, computer server, 29` colour TV, network printer and Internet connectivity of 128 Kbps through Broadband VSAT. One training lab has also been set up in each districts to train the teachers in computer applications, course development and other technology related aspects. The schools have been selected

with the help of the State Governments.

The Pilot Project has been implemented on a budget of Rs. 15 crores.